CIRCULATION 2750.

Bigfoot News

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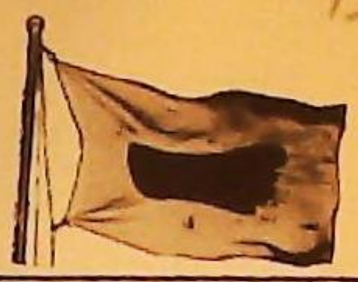


Number Twentyseven. December 1976.

Editorial

ONCE AGAIN nature's icy breath blows hard across the land and winter has come to the high Cascades of Oregon and Washington. The first snows are now falling and slowly the great mountains retreat into winter silence. Obeying the immutable laws of nature the animals now move to the lower levels. The deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, all descend at this time of year to where they can find the one thing that governs and controls their lives and their movements, food. And the Bigfeet? Do they also come to lower levels?

One of the mysteries of the Bigfeet, one that we have been unable to solve to date, is where they go in the winter. The question is not one of how they survive in the winter. Temperatures in the mountains of Oregon may sink to as low as -F45 in December and January. But this is not for prolonged spells and the other animals, in particular the deer, an animal with a thin coat of hair as its only protection, can survive these lows. The question is, what geographical areas and what altitude levels constitute their winter habitat.

For as far down as the forest reaches the land in winter time is covered with snow. The edge of the snow line roughly marks, in most areas, the edge of the forest. It also marks, in the other direction - below the snowline - the edge of human habitation. The forest dwelling animals, although forced down by winter snow, seldom leave the forest. Bigfoot, a known forest dweller and an extra shy one at that, would obviously follow the same pattern. In other words, he would make his habitat in the lightly snowed areas of the lower altitudes. Why, then, does he leave so little sign of his foraging and his passage at a time when it could easily be detected by man? At a time when, with nature's virgin white carpet spread across the mountains, the footprints of even the smallest of the mountain animals are easily discernable?

Do the Bigfeet hibernate? Do they all go north, or south, in the winter? Are there caves where they can find warm shelter? Is there a valley somewhere, a sort of Elephants Graveyard, where they huddle together until the spring?

Perhaps 1977 will bring us some of the answers. Until then we wish all our readers a healthy and a prosperous NEW YEAR. THE EDITORS.

Latest News From The Pacific Northwest

WASHINGTON. A report of a sighting. Place, in the Goat Rocks Wilderness, northwest of the Yakima Indian Reservation. Time, the week of November 14, I976.

A Police Sgt., of the Yakima Police Department and companions were hunting in this area. Twice while they were there a deer carcass, hung by them in the trees,was interfered with by something unknown. No tracks were found.

After some days hunting the group went to visit another hunters camp not far away. Here they were told a strange tale. One of the members of the second camp was a man past middle age, an experienced woodsman who had worked for the Forest Service for a number of years. His work required that he spend many days and nights in the forest alone. One morning, while hunting with his companions, he decided to go out alone. He took a camp stool and put it beside a large tree at the edge of a deer trail. There he concealed himself and waited for a deer to come alone.

Soon after he had concealed himself the man heard footsteps, approaching down the trail. He turned slowly, rifle in hand, to take aim at what he thought would be a deer. Instead, standing a short distance away was what he described as a " large dark form, standing upright, and remaining perfectly still." It had " much lighter colored palms (on its hands) and face." It stood for a moment or two and the man said that it had obviously detected him for it was watching him. It then turned suddenly and disappeared into the brush. The man stated that he did not know what it was that he saw.

The man's companions, the other members of the hunting party, told the Police Sgt., that he had been very frightened by what he had seen and that after the incident, the man, who had spent many years alone in these forests, refused to leave camp. Tentative Credit Rating, 5/10.

CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, OREGON AND BRITISH COLUMBIA. No new reports.

NOTE: Credit for the above report, BF. Information Center Associate W.J.Vogel. Ratings, for credibility, are based on a low of one and a high of ten. Average ratings, five to seven.

A Look Back Into History

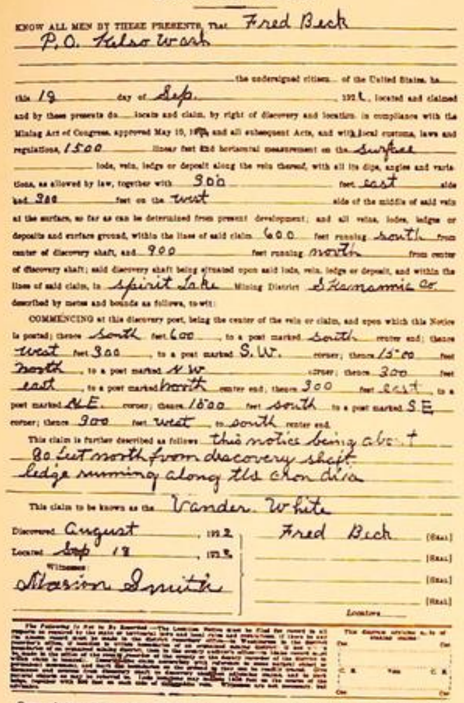
A 107 YEAR OLD STORY FROM NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. CREDIT, THE BIGFOOT BULLETIN AND EDITOR GEORGE HAAS. ORIGINAL CREDIT, IM McCLARIN.

" I saw in your paper a short time since, an item concerning the " gorilla " which was said to have been seen in Crow Canyon and shortly after in the mountains at Orestimba Creek. You sneered at the idea of there being any such a critter in these hills, and, were I not better I should sneer too, or else conclude that one of your recent prospecting party had got lost in the wilderness and did not have sense enough to find his way back to Terry's. I positively assure you that this gorilla or wildman, or whatever you choose to call it is no myth. I know that it exists and that there are at least two of them having seen both of them at once not a year ago. Their existence has been reported at times for the past twenty years, and I have heard it said that in early days an Orang Outan escaped from a ship on the southern coast; but the creature that I have seen is not that animal, and if it is, where did he get his mate? Import her as the webfoot did their wives? Last fall I was hunting in the mountains about twenty miles south of here, and camped five or six days in one place, as I have done every season for the past fifteen years. Several times I returned to camp, after a hunt, and saw that the ashes and charred sticks from the fireplace had been scattered about. An old hunter notices such things, and very soon gets curious to know the cause. Although my bedding and traps and little stores were not disturbed, as I could see, I was anxious to learn who or what it was that so regularily visited my camp, for clearly the half burnt sticks and cinders could not scatter themselves about. I saw no tracks near the camp, as the hard ground covered with leaves would show none. So I started in a circle around the place, and, three hundred yards off, in damp sand, I struck the track of a man's foot, as I supposed, bare and of immense size. Now I was curious, sure, and I resolved to lay for the barefooted visitor. I accordingly took a position on the hillside, about sixty or seventy feet from the fire, and, secretly hid in the brush, I waited and watched. Two hours and more I sat there and wondered if the owner of the feet would come again, and whether he imagined what an interest he had created in my inquiring mind, and finally what possessed him to be prowling around there with no shoes on. The fireplace was on my right, and the spot where I saw the track was on my left, hid by the bushes. It was in this direction my attention was mostly directed, thinking the visitor would appear there, and besides, it was easier to sit and face that way. Suddenly I was suprised by a shrill whistle, such as boys produce with two fingers under their tongue, and turning quickly, I ejaculated, " Good God! " as I saw the object of my solicitude standing beside my fire, erect, and looking suspiciously around. It was in the image of a man but it could not have been human. I was never so benumbed with astonishment before. The creature, whatever it was, stood fully five feet high, and disproportionately broad and square at the fore shoulders, with arms of great length. The legs were very short and the body long. The head was small compared with the rest of the creature, and appeared to be set upon his shoulders without a neck. The whole was covered with dark brown and cinnamon colored hair, quite long in some parts, that on the head standing in a shock and growing close down to the eyes, like a Digger Indians. As I looked he threw his head back and whistled again, and then stopped a grabbed a stick from the fire. This he swung round until the fire on the end had gone out, when he repeated the manoever. I was dumb, almost, and could only look. Fifteen minutes I sat and watched him as he whistled and scattered my fire about. I could easily have put a bullet through his head, but why should I kill him? Having amused himself, apparently, as he desired, with my fire, he started to go, and, having gone a short distance returned, and was joined by another - a female, unmistakeably - when both turned and walked past me, within twenty yards of where I sat, and disappeared in the brush. I could not have had a better opportunity for observing them, as they were unconscious of my presence. Their only object in visiting my camp seemed to be to amuse themselves with swinging lighted sticks around. I have heard this story many times since then, and it has often raised an incredulous smile; but I have met one person who has seen the mysterious creatures and a dozen of whom have come across their tracks at various places between here and Pacheco Pass."

EDITORS NOTE: This account, in the form of a letter from a correspondent of the Antioch Ledger, a Californian newspaper, was found by our one-time associate Jim McClarin in the files of the Butte Record. Date of the item is October 16th., 1870 but the incident took place a year before that, in 1869. As to the location of the incident: Orestimba Peak, 2073 feet, lies just north of a line drawn between Merced, California and San Jose. Pacheco Pass, 1386 feet, is now traversed by highway 152., between Los Banos and Bells Station, due south of Orestimba Peak.

ONCE AGAIN, WITH FEELING, APE CANYON.

DURING THE SUMMER OF THIS LAST YEAR A NUMBER OF BIGFOOT SEARCHERS WENT INTO APE CANYON AND TRIED TO FIND THE CABIN AND MINE SHAFT THAT WAS THE SCENE OF THE FAMOUS 1924 INCIDENT.ALL FAILED TO FIND THE OLD SHAFT. THE CABIN OF THE MINERS IS, OF COURSE, LONG SINCE GONE. HERE, FOR THE INFORMATION OF FUTURE SEARCHERS, IS A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL CLAIM, MADE BY FRED BECK AND HIS COMPANIONS FIFTY FOUR YEARS AGO.



LOCATION NOTICE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That Fred Beck
P.O. Kelso Wash

the undersigned citizen... of the United States, ha... this 19 day of Sep. 192[illegible], located and claimed and by these presents do... locate and claim, by right of discovery and location, in compliance with the Mining Act of Congress, approved May 10, 1872, and all subsequent Acts, and with local customs, laws and regulations, 1500 linear feet and horizontal measurement on the surface lode, vein, ledge or deposit along the vein thereof, with all its dips, angles and variations, as allowed by law, together with 300 feet east side and 300 feet on the west side of the middle of said vein at the surface, so far as can be determined from present development; and all veins, lodes, ledges or deposits and surface ground, within the lines of said claim. 600 feet running south from center of discovery shaft, and 900 feet running north from center of discovery shaft; said discovery shaft being situated upon said lode, vein, ledge or deposit, and within the lines of said claim, in Spirit Lake Mining District Siskiyou Co described by metes and bounds as follows, to-wit:

COMMENCING at this discovery post, being the center of the vein or claim, and upon which this Notice is posted; thence South feet 600, to a post marked South center end; thence West feet 300, to a post marked S.W. corner; thence 1500 feet North, to a post marked N.W. corner; thence 300 feet east, to a post marked North center end; thence 300 feet East to a post marked N.E. corner; thence 1800 feet South to a post marked S.E. corner; thence 900 feet West to South center end.

This claim is further described as follows: This notice being about 80 feet north from discovery shaft ledge running along the Klondike

This claim to be known as the Vander White

Discovered August 192[illegible] Fred Beck [Seal]
Located Sept 19 192[illegible] [Seal]
Witnesses [Seal]
Marion Smith [Seal]
Location

Copy of the mining claim of Fred Beck in Ape Canyon, the Vander White Claim, dated September 18,1922.

M I S C E L L A N Y

RECENT VISITORS TO THE BIGFOOT INFORMATION CENTER: Erwin Bauer, Camping Editor, *Outdoor Life magazine.* John Mitchell, Field Editor, *Audubon magazine.* Stuart Mutch, Field Associate, the B.I.C.

BIGFOOT IN THE NEWS: Argosy Magazine, Dec/Jan issue, 1976., Vol. 384., No. 6. " BIGFOOT: MAN, BEAST OR MYTH."By T. Jeff Williams, with pictures by Bigfoot Center Director Peter Byrne. An unusually well-written article, clear, concise and factual.

KIDS...starting in January, 1977., junior readers and all children wanting information about the work of the Center should write to Bill Esposito, Coordinator of Children's Services, the B.I.C. PO Box 632., The Dalles, Oregon, 97058.

BFN SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS: Readers are asked, when renewing their subscriptions, to please mark on their check the fact that it is for a renewal and not a new subscription.

BIGFOOT ON TELEVISION. The new series, IN SEARCH OF, narrated by Leonard Nimoy, will this month (December) feature their " IN SEARCH OF BIGFOOT", partially filmed at the Bigfoot Information Center in The Dalles with researchers Peter Byrne and Lynn Mc Kinney. Readers should check their TV guides for screening times.

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RECOMMENDED BY THE BIGFOOT INFORMATION CENTER.

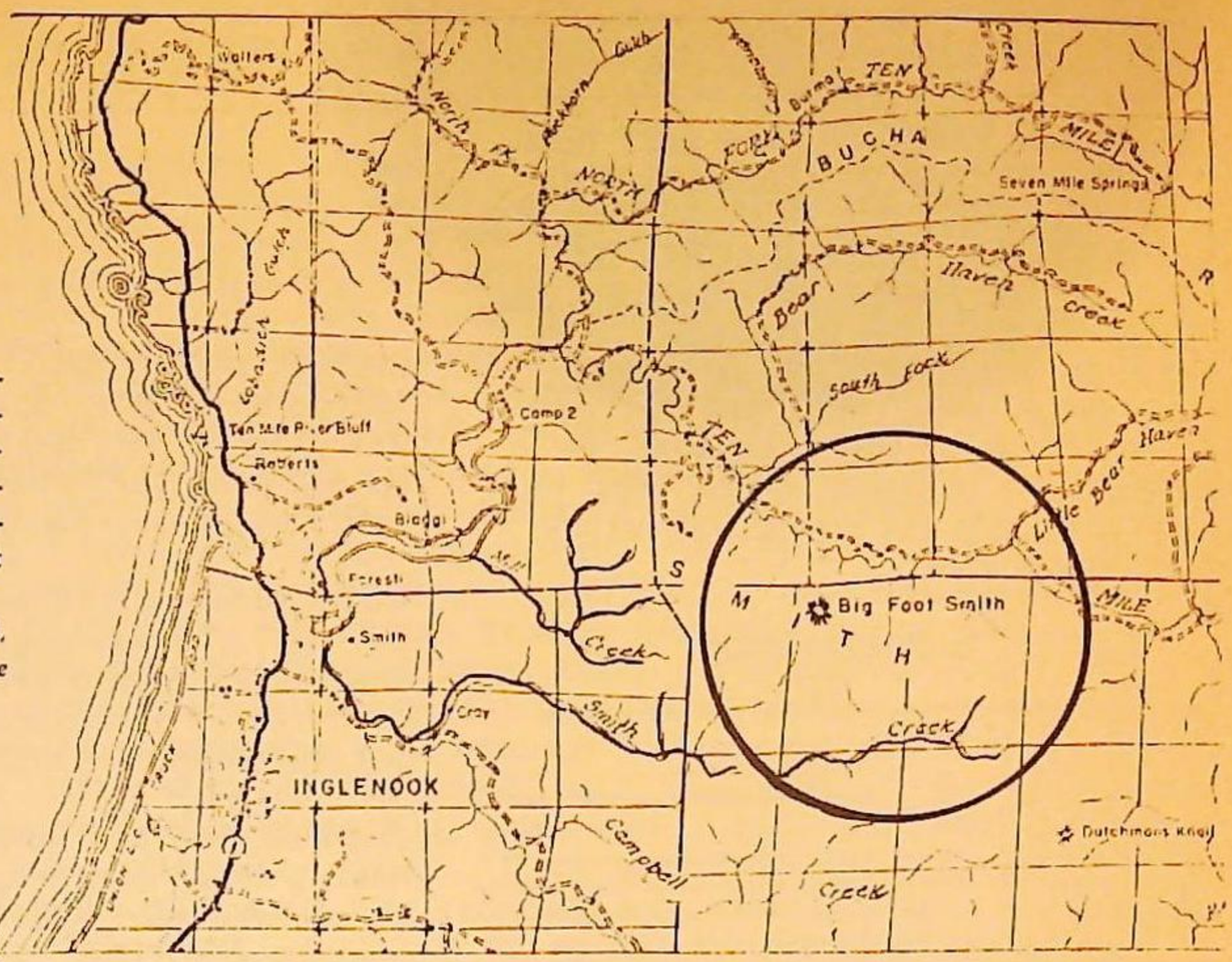
BIGFOOT
MERRIFIELD & FRANCE
WITH THIS STARLIGHT SCOPE WE CAN SPOT BIGFOOT AT NIGHT.
EXCELLENT! I'LL GET THE CAMERA FROM THE TENT.
SEE ANYTHING?
NOT YET.
WELL, KEEP LOOKING. YOU'RE BOUND TO LUCK OUT SOMEDAY.

ABOVE: MT. SHASTA, CALIFORNIA, SCENE OF THE RECENT SIGHTING.

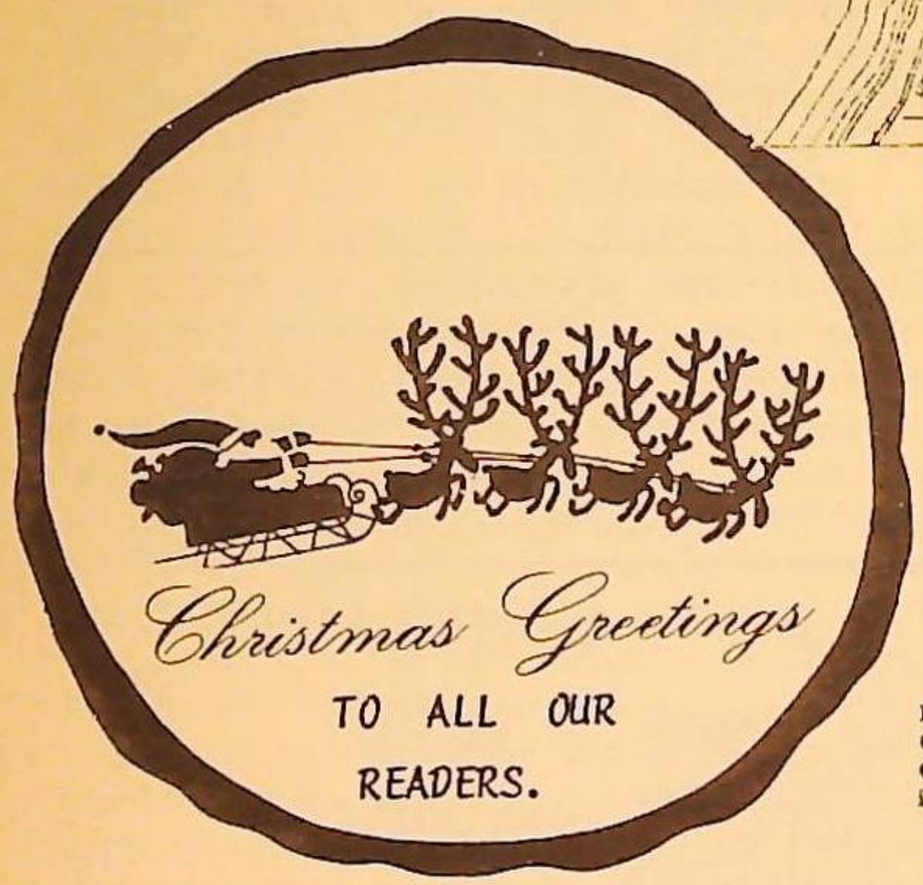
THOUGHTS

"Civilization is not just great cities, industrial developments, miles of highways, enormous airfields, and numerous other technical conveniences. If by building our civilization, we destroy the last remnants of wildlife, we can no longer speak of civilization at all."

—Kai Curry-Lindahl,
in *Let Them Live*



ANOTHER GEOGRAPHICAL BIGFOOT FIND HAS BEEN MADE IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. IT IS A MOUNTAIN NAMED " BIGFOOT SMITH ". ITS LOCATION IS JUST NORTHEAST OF THE TOWN OF INGLENOOK, IN THE NORTHERN HALF OF MENDOCINO CO. PENDING INVESTIGATION INTO THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME ITS RELEVANCY TO THE BIGFOOT PHENOMENON AS WE KNOW IS NOT CERTAIN. CREDIT: FREDERICK BENTON, ANDERSON, CALIF.



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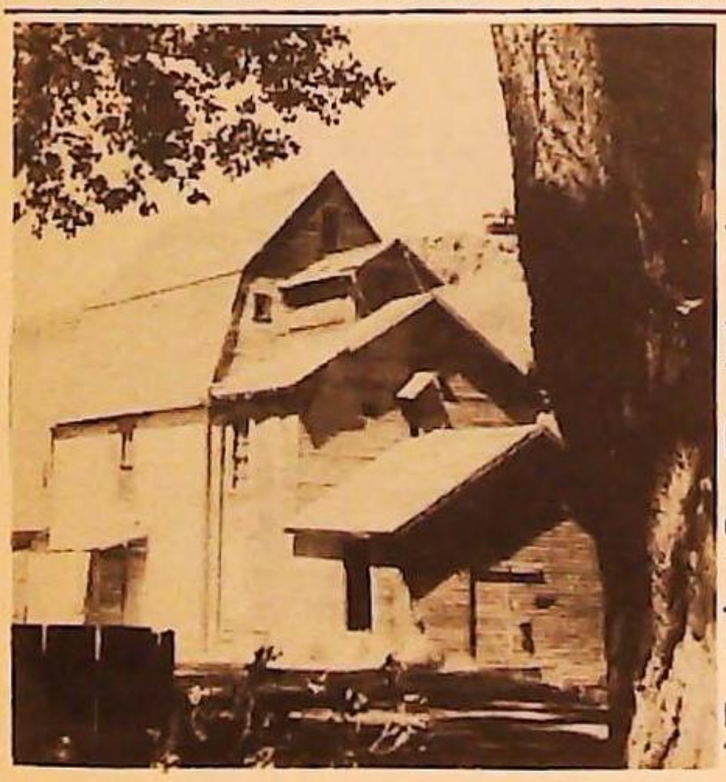
NEXT MONTH IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE BIGFOOT NEWS....MORE INFORMATION FROM THE PAST. LATEST NEWS FROM LOCH NESS AND THE WORK OF THE ACADEMY OF APPLIED SCIENCE. THE MERRIFIELD AND FRANCE BIGFOOT LEAVES FOR THE HIMALAYA. YET ANOTHER HISTORICAL STORY. AND ALL THE NEWS FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST INVESTIGATED AND ANALYSED BY THE RESEARCHERS OF THE BIGFOOT INFORMATION CENTER. BIGFOOT NEWS, PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH FROM THE B.I.C. SUBSCRIPTION FIVE DOLLARS ANNUALLY, POSTPAID IN USA.



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